

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113
THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2005
8:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Larry Hudkins, Chair
Deb Schorr, Vice Chair
Bob Workman

Commissioners Absent: Bernie Heier
Ray Stevens

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Kristy Mundt, Deputy County Attorney
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:33 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF THE STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2005

MOTION: Workman moved and Schorr seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes dated August 18, 2005. Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Schorr abstained from voting. Motion carried.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None were stated.

3 MICROCOMPUTER BUDGET - Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer; Doug Thomas, Information Services Director; Ken Kuszak, Microcomputer/Network Support Coordinator

Doug Thomas, Information Services Director, gave an overview of 2005/2006 County PC Requests (Exhibit A).

Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, distributed copies of Microcomputer Request C#2005-321, \$697.68 from Veterans Administration for two used PC's (Exhibit B).

MOTION: Workman moved to authorize seven (7) flat screen monitors for the County Sheriff's Office, as a test, and to reassess the overall policy on flat screen monitors at a later date.

The motion died for the lack of a second.

Brief discussion followed with general consensus to not amend the policy on flat screen monitors at this time.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Workman seconded to approve the microcomputer requests totaling \$81,112.25 (see Exhibit A) and to add the request from Veterans Administration which totaled \$697.68. Schorr, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

The Board requested additional information regarding the large document scanner requested by Records and Information Management and asked that the purchase be delayed until further review.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

C. Fifteen Cent Rural Levy and Public Hearing Regarding Amount of County Levy

Kroeker presented information relating to allocation of the 15 cent levy authorized for certain political subdivisions and the budget request from the Lancaster County Agricultural Society (Exhibits C & D).

Hudkins said he favors levying the full 15 cents and restoring the difference to the Ag Society.

Brief discussion followed with consensus to have Kroeker bring forward a resolution setting the rate, as presented.

- 4 PROPOSED CHANGES TO COUNTY HEALTH REGULATIONS:
A) FEES FOR ON-SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS,
ASBESTOS PERMITS AND BURN PERMITS
B) WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM REGULATIONS (CR 02-30-31)**

C) PROPERTY TRANSFERS INVOLVING ON-SITE WASTEWATER AND TREATMENT SYSTEMS - Scott Holmes, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department Environmental Health Division Chief; John Chess, Supervisor; and Kristy Mundt, Deputy County Attorney

A) Fees for On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems, Asbestos Permits and Burn Permits

Scott Holmes, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department Environmental Health Division Chief, reviewed proposed changes to County Resolution No. 5069 (Air Pollution) and County Resolution No. 02-30 (On-Site Waste Water Treatment Systems). He said the proposed increases in fees will generate revenue and address increases in operational costs.

B) Wastewater Treatment System Regulations (CR 02-30-31)

Holmes said the changes are proposed to assure consistency with recent changes in Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality's (NDEQ) Title 124.

C) Property Transfers Involving On-Site Wastewater and Treatment Systems

John Chess, Supervisor, gave an overview of a proposal to regulate property transfers with on-site systems (see agenda packet).

Brief discussion took place regarding the proposed fees. Holmes explained that the intent is to have the program be fee funded.

Concerns were noted regarding interference with private contractual rights and estate planning.

Holmes said it is not the intent to stop the sale of property or to cause existing permitted on-site systems that are in substantial conformance with current construction standards to be brought into compliance.

It was noted that the department is also proposing a new fee for reviewing land use plans that involve on-site water or wastewater treatment systems. The department historically received around \$25,000 from the Planning Department each year for this work, but it was cut from this year's budget. It is estimated that the fees will generate about \$20,000 per year, which will cover approximately half of the cost of the mandatory work.

5 EXECUTIVE SESSION - Mike Thew, Chief Deputy County Attorney

MOTION: Schorr moved and Workman seconded to enter Executive Session at 10:09 a.m. for discussion of litigation. Schorr, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

MOTION: Workman moved and Schorr seconded to exit Executive Session at 10:47 a.m. Schorr, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

6 BID FEE FOR AMERICRUISE - Wendy Birdsall, Interim Lincoln Chamber of Commerce President; Bruce Bohrer, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce

Wendy Birdsall, Interim Lincoln Chamber of Commerce President, said Lincoln has an opportunity to host the Americruise event next year but a bid fee of \$50,000 is required. She estimated that \$20,000 can be raised through private donations and underwriting fees.

Bruce Bohrer, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, said the Nebraska Legislature passed legislation this session to change permitted uses of lodging tax revenue. He said the language restricts use of the County Visitors Improvement Fund to promote tourism (including bid fees) until the Visitors Promotion Committee has determined that the visitor attractions in the county are adequate and do not require improvement or construction.

Birdsall requested that: 1) Any excess funds from the current Visitors Promotion Fund be set aside for Americruise, up to \$30,000, in the next calendar year to cover the additional cost; and 2) The Board seek amendment of the language to provide more flexibility.

Hudkins suggested amendment of the budget, rather than reliance on the excess funds.

Birdsall said she would be willing to pledge carryover funds towards the cost. She added that the funds are not needed until next May.

MOTION: Workman moved and Schorr seconded to pledge \$30,000 from the Visitors Promotion Fund for the Americruise bid fee. Workman, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

7 RURAL AMBULANCE SERVICE COMMITTEE - Doug Ahlberg, Emergency Management Director

Doug Ahlberg, Emergency Management Director, reported on formation of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Funding Committee and suggested that a letter be sent to the proposed members (Exhibit E). **NOTE:** See agenda packet for proposed membership list.

MOTION: Workman moved and Schorr seconded approval of the letter. Schorr, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

8 AMERICORP INTERNS - Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) Director

Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) Director, said the Lincoln Action Program (LAP) received a grant through the AmeriCorp Program (a job training program based on income needs) for five part-time positions. Applications are being accepted and some of CMHC's clients could be eligible for the program. These individuals will be employed by LAP and placed at CMHC, CenterPointe and O.U.R. Homes.

Liability and Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (HIPAA) concerns were noted and it was agreed that Kristy Mundt, Deputy County Attorney; Sue Eckley, Workers' Compensation & Risk Management Manager; and Tom Champoux, UNICO Group, Inc. will review the contract.

9 FISCAL AGENT FOR FAMILY DRUG COURT GRANT - Juvenile Court Judge Linda Porter

Juvenile Court Judge Linda Porter said the State Court Administrator is unable to serve as fiscal agent for Family Drug Court Grant funds this year and asked that Lancaster County serve in that capacity.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Workman seconded to allow Lancaster County to act as the fiscal agent for the Family Drug Court Grant. Schorr, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

10 ACTION ITEMS

- A. Agenda Items for Lincoln Public Schools (LPS)/City Council/County Board Joint Meeting (September 13, 2005)

Hudkins requested a report from LPS on planning for elementary schools in north and northwest Lincoln.

- B. Engagement Agreement with James Arthur Vineyards for Tri-County Meeting (November 10, 2005)

MOTION: Workman moved and Schorr seconded approval. Workman, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

11 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Annual Conference (October 11-13, 2005 in Omaha, Nebraska)

The Chair encouraged attendance at the conference workshops. Workman, Schorr and Hudkins indicated plans to attend.

- B. Pollution Advisory Committee Appointments (Dave Skipton and Patricia Owen)

The Board scheduled the item on the Tuesday, September 29, 2005 Board of Commissioners Meeting.

- C. Fifteen Cent Rural Levy and Public Hearing Regarding Amount of County Levy

Item moved forward on the agenda.

- D. Cancellation of County Treasurer's Scanner Program (Exhibit F)

MOTION: Schorr moved and Workman seconded to authorize the Chair to sign letters of termination to JT Associates of Omaha, Nebraska and Captovation, Inc. of Edina, Minnesota. Schorr, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

- E. Management Team September Meeting

Board consensus was to move the meeting from September 8 to September 15, 2005.

12 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

- A. Arena Task Force - Hudkins

Hudkins said there was a report on the Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD) and roundtable discussion of whether there is a need to: 1) Replace Pershing Auditorium; and 2) Build an exhibit hall.

B. Public Building Commission and Mayor - Hudkins

Hudkins reported on security issues and receipt of an offer of property adjacent to the government complex.

C. Fairgrounds Joint Public Agency (JPA) Meeting - Hudkins, Workman

Workman reported approval of \$640 thousand of public funds for capital improvements.

13 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Schorr moved and Workman seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:04 p.m. Schorr, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

Bruce Medcalf
Lancaster County Clerk